

drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description:

31 (Fig. 4), 42 (Fig. 5) and 43 (Fig. 6). A proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment to the specification to add the reference sign(s) in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The drawings have been corrected and enclosed.

Changes to the Claims

Claim 1. (amended) I have amended the claim to eliminate the circular and oval shapes. A rectangle with a tab extension is claimed which the present application discloses in the summary, detailed description and Figs. 6 and 9. Pletcher does not anticipate the rectangular shape or the tab extension and teaches away from it as discussed above.

Claim 2. (deleted).

Claim 3. As discussed above, claim 3 further narrows claim 1 and includes all claim 1 limitations.

Claim 4. Assuming claim 1 is distinguishable from Pletcher, a single wire further narrows claim 1 and includes all the limitations of claim 1.

Claim 5. This has been discussed above. Andreiko does not claim or suggest the limitations of the present invention which, for one, requires a bendable wire to form the tie hook. The Andreiko wire is not bendable. It would not have been obvious to make a multistranded tie on orthodontic hook.

Claim 6. (deleted).

Claim 7. (amended) This claim is rewritten the same as claim 1 with the exception the wire is rectangular in cross section. For the reasons cited in claim 1, plus the further limitation of wire rectangular in cross section, claim 7 is distinguishable over Pletcher.

Claim 8. (deleted).

Claim 9. As discussed above, claim 9 further narrows claim 7 and includes all claim 7 limitations.

Claim 10. Single strand further narrows claim 7 which is patentable over Pletcher and single strand must be viewed with all the limitations of claim 7.

Claim 11. This has been discussed in claim 5.

Claim 12. (deleted).

Claim 13. (deleted).

Claim 14.(deleted).

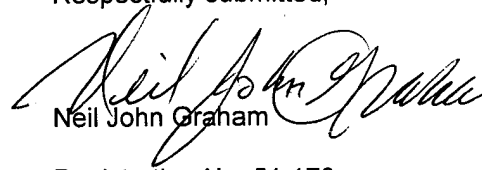
Claim 15. (deleted).

Claim 16. (deleted).

Claim 17. (deleted).

Claim 18. (deleted).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neil John Graham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Neil" being the most prominent.

Neil John Graham

Registration No. 51,179